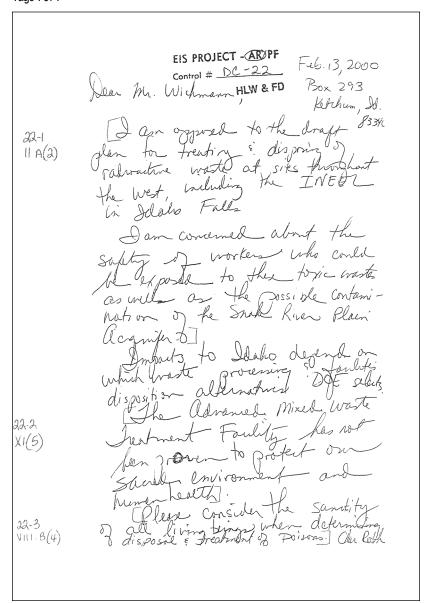
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

HLW & FD

EIS PROJECT - AR PF

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Atlanta GA 30341-3724 February 7, 2000

Thomas L. Wichmann, Document Manager U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office 850 Energy Drive, MS 1108 Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563 Attention: Public Comment: Idaho HLW & FD EIS



Dear Mr. Wichmann:

We have completed our review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Idaho High-Level Waste and Facilities Disposition. We are responding on behalf of the U.S. Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). This letter serves as a response to your letters of request sent to Dr. Jeffery Koplan, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to Mr. Richard Green , Environment and Safety Officer, (DHHS), and to Mr. Kenneth W. Holt, National Center for Environmental Health, CDC, We request that future correspondence related to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 32-1 |X.2()\(\text{x}\) specifically requests for review of environmental impact statements, be sent only to Mr. Holt for coordination at the following address:

> Kenneth W. Holt, MSEH Centers for Disease Control & Prevention National Center for Environmental Health Emergency & Environmental Health Services Division (F16) 4770 Buford Hwy. NE Atlanta, GA 30341-3724

Technical assistance for this review was provided by Mr. Charles M. Wood, Radiation Studies Branch, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, National Center for Environmental Health, CDC. Please consider the following comment provided by Mr. Wood: "The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board audited the Department of Energy program for HEPA filters and cited several serious deficiencies. I have attached a copy of this audit for your will equi information. One of the more serious deficiencies is that DOE has shut down its facility for quality assurance testing of new filters. All the machinery is now at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, but there is no funding to assemble the equipment and put it back into operation. The proposed facilities in the DEIS will depend on HEPA filters to meet emissions standards. For new facilities DOE should address the deficiencies cited in the DNFSB audit. How do they propose to do that?"